



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/686,936	10/16/2003	John Danules	822103-1020	4592

24504 7590 12/22/2004

THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, LLP  
100 GALLERIA PARKWAY, NW  
STE 1750  
ATLANTA, GA 30339-5948

EXAMINER

RAO, G NAGESH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1722

DATE MAILED: 12/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/686,936	DANULES ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	G. Nagesh Rao	1722	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
  2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
  3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
  4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.
1. Claims 1-2 and 4 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farkhan (U.S. Patent No. 6,293,762 B1) in view of Rockel (U.S. Patent No. 5,390, 825).

The following claims read on as a kit claim i.e. “plurality of known articles” grouped together as a kit and provide no improvement towards the state of technology, deeming the invention obvious to one skilled in the art.

With respect to claims 1 and 2 Farkhan 762 teaches a method for sealing a tire and for introducing liquid into a tire, where the apparatus disclosed in the invention comprises of a cart (see figure 1) and a line, which is read on as a hose, and anticipates gas supply line (see figure 1 element 40) for introduction of materials into a conduit of the sort. The Farkhan 762 apparatus has the ability to be modified from an apparatus that introduces a liquid sealant for flat proofing tires to introduce a foamy substance instead. Farkhan 762 however lacks a mixer and a work surface for the cart where a tire and wheel assembly can be worked upon.

The addition of a workspace for the cart is a mere work surface configuration for the apparatus and is nothing exemplary that a regular work-table could not already provide.

Rockel 825 teaches a portable self-contained two-part adhesive dispensing device which used for pumping adhesive sealant material. An epoxy and hardener are contained separately prior to being mixed together and injected into a work material (column 3 lines 37- 49). The apparatus taught in Rockel 825 includes a static mixer (column 7 line 43) that is attached to a hose line inlet (column 7 lines 37-41) for receiving materials for mixing before ejecting the composite resin from an outlet (column 7 lines 44-45).

It would be obvious to one skilled in the art to attach the static mixer of Rockel 825 towards the Farkhan 762 apparatus for proper mixing of the reactant materials, so that the composition forms appropriately when introduced into the tire. Since the mixer is capable of mixing materials such as resin and foam together before injection into the tire as a foam filled substance.

2. With respect to claim 4 as read in applicant's specification about the "means for automatically controlling the amount of reactants mixed by the mixer", the Farkhan 762 apparatus includes an electronic control system that is read on as analogous to the control system described in applicant's specification and would be capable of being modified and programmed to automatically control the amount of reactants mixed by the static mixer (column 3 lines 55-67 and column 4 lines 1-47).

3. Claim 3 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farkhan (U.S. Patent No. 6,293,762 B1) in view of Bass (U.S. Patent No. 5,962,779).

With respect to claim 3 Farkhan's 762 cart lacks the workspace with a weight scale.

Bass 779 discloses various known art used in the method of weighing a tire including that of a weight scale.

Therefore claimed invention's workspace including a weight scale for weighing the tire is obvious to one skilled in the art to ensure the weight of the tire has inflated properly with the foam resin material and reached its desire weight.

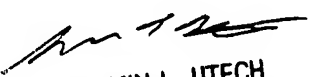
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to G. Nagesh Rao whose telephone number is (571) 272-2946. The examiner can normally be reached on 9AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Benjamin Utech can be reached on (571) 272-1137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



GNR



BENJAMIN L. UTECH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700